

Guidelines for determining permit requirements for tents, tensioned membrane structures and canopies

	UFC Permit Required, N.J.A.C. 5:70-2.7	UCC Permit Required, N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.14	No Permit Required
Tent, tensioned membrane structure, or canopy less 900 square feet in area or less and 30 feet or less in any dimension without platforms or bleachers			X
Tent, tensioned membrane structure, or canopy greater than 900 square feet in area or more than 30 feet in any dimension, but 16,800 square feet or less in area and 140 feet or less in any dimension, whether it is composed of one unit or multiple units	Type 1 X		
Tent, tensioned membrane structure, or canopy greater than 900 square feet in area or more than 30 feet in any dimension, but 16,800 square feet or less in area and 140 feet or less in any dimension that contains platforms or bleachers 11 feet or less in height, whether it is composed of one unit or multiple units	Type 1 X		
Tent, tensioned membrane structure, or canopy greater than 16,800 square feet or greater than 140 feet in any dimension		X	
Tent, tensioned membrane structure, or canopy of any size remaining in place for more than 180 days		X	
Tent, tensioned membrane structure, or canopy of any size used or occupied between December 1 and March 31		X	
Tent, tensioned membrane structure, or canopy of any size having a permanent anchoring system		X	
Tent, tensioned membrane structure, or canopy of any size containing platforms or bleachers greater than 11 feet in height		X	
Tent, tensioned membrane structure, or canopy greater than 900 square feet in area or more than 30 feet in any dimension, but 16,800 square feet or less in area and 140 feet or less in any dimension, whether it is composed of one unit or multiple units, that installs electrical equipment, electrical wiring or mechanical equipment that is supplied by other than (cord and plug) temporary wiring in accordance with the Uniform Fire Code	Type 1 X	X	

Uniform Fire Code Definitions (also see Chapter 31 of the IFC 2015, NJ edition, for other applicable requirements)

Canopy: A structure or architectural projection of rigid construction over which a covering is attached that provides weather protection, identity or decoration, and may be structurally independent or supported by attachment to a building on one end and by not less than one stanchion on the outer end.

Tent: A structure, enclosure or shelter constructed of fabric or pliable material supported by any manner except by air or the contents that it protects, with sidewalls or drops on more than 25 percent of the perimeter.

Temporary wiring: Temporary wiring for electrical power and lighting installations is allowed for a period not to exceed 90 days. Temporary wiring methods shall meet the applicable provisions of the electrical subcode of the Uniform Construction Code.

Uniform Construction Code Definitions (also see Chapter 31 of the IBC 2018, NJ edition, for other applicable requirements)

Canopy: A permanent structure or architectural projection of rigid construction over which a covering is attached that provides weather protection, identity or decoration. A canopy is permitted to be structurally independent or supported by attachment to a building on one or more sides.

Tent: A structure, enclosure, umbrella structure or shelter, with or without sidewalls or drops, constructed of fabric or pliable material supported in any manner except by air or the contents it protects (see “Umbrella structure”).

Umbrella Structure: A structure, enclosure or shelter with or without sidewalls or drops, constructed of fabric or pliable material supported by a central pole or poles (see “Tent”).